

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 FLOREN 00085 021444Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-08

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /078 W

-----030317 113108 /63

R 021130Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL FLORENCE

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1612

AMCONSUL MILAN

UNCLAS FLORENCE 0085

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, IT

SUBJECT: LIVORNO MAYOR REQUISITIONS 'IL TELEGRAFO' NEWSPAPER

REF: 76 FLORENCE 424 (NOTAL)

1. SUNDAY FEBRUARY 27 EDITION OF 100-YEAR OLD INDEPENDENT LIVORNO DAILY 'IL TELEGRAGO' CARRIED RED BANNER HEADLINE ANNOUNCING THAT MAYOR ALI NANNIPIERI (PCI) HAD REQUISITIONED THAT NEWSPAPER APPARENTLY SATURDAY IN A MOVE UNPRECEDENTED AT LEAST IN MODERN ITALIAN HISTORY. THE MAYOR'S ACTION HAS A THIRTY-DAY EFFECT AND APPARENTLY IS INTENDED TO GAIN MORE TIME FOR THE 200 EMPLOYEES CURRENTLY RUNNING THE PAPER AS A COOPERATIVE UNDER A SIX-MONTH TRIAL AGREEMENT WITH OWNER ATTILIO MONTI (ALSO OWNER OF CONSERVATIVE 'LA NAZIONE' OF FLORENCE AND 'IL RESTO DEL CARLINO' OF BOLOGNA ALSO CONSERVATIVE). THE MAGISTRATE RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDLING THIS BANKRUPT PROPERTY WIRED THE MAYOR OF HIS INTENTION TO TAKE QUOTE EVERY ACTION WITH EVERY COMPETENT AUTHORITY UNQUOTE AGAINST THE QUOTE ILLEGITIMATE UNQUOTE REQUISITION.

2. ON AUGUST 1, 1976, OWNER MONTI TRANSFERRED OPERATING RESPONSIBILITY OF 'IL TELEGRAFO' TO THE 'COOPERATIVA LIBERA UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 FLOREN 00085 021444Z

INFORMAZIONI' COMPOSED OF THE APPROXIMATELY 200 EMPLOYEES FOR SIX MONTHS DURING WHICH IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THE COOP WOULD ATTEMPT TO PUT THE PAPER ON A PROFITABLE FOOTING AND/OR FIND A BUYER. THE CONSULATE IS INFORMED THAT DURING THE PAST SEVEN MONTHS MONTI CHARGED THE COOP ONLY 1000 LIRE RENT FOR THE PREMISES, PERMITTED FREE USE OF THE EQUIPMENT AND ALL THE REPORTEDLY SUBSTANTIAL SUPPLIES IN STOCK, INCLUDING NEWSPRINT, LEAD, INK,

ETC. BUT THE COOP HAD TO BUY SUPPLIES WHEN THOSE ON HAND WERE EXHAUSTED. CIRCULATION REPORTEDLY ROSE FROM 25,000 TO 45,000 DAILY BUT THE SALE PRICE REMAINED 150 LIRE AND EMPLOYEES RECEIVED ONLY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION. THE COOP MADE A CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO FIND A BUYER AND A FEW WEEKS AGO APPROACHED THE PRIME MINISTER FOR HELP IN FINDING A SOLUTION BUT HAD NO SUCCESS. THE MAYOR'S MOVE WILL PROBABLY PROVIDE A FURTHER 30 DAYS TIME TO FIND A SOLUTION ALTHOUGH REPORTEDLY THERE IS NONE IN SIGHT.

3. ACCORDING TO OWNER MONTI, THE PAPER HAS LOST 600 MILLION TO ONE BILLION LIRE EVERY YEAR SINCE HE BOUGHT IT IN 1968. THE PAPER FACES WHAT IS WIDELY BELIEVED TO BE AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION. ITS DISTRIBUTION AREA HAS BEEN LIMITED TO THE TYRRHENIAN COAST FROM GROSSETO TO LA SPEZIA. THE POPULATION THERE IS INSUFFICIENT TO SUPPORT A PAPER OF ONLY LOCAL INTEREST AND IT LACKS RESOURCES TO COMPETE WITH EXISTING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL DAILIES. REPORTEDLY THE EMPLOYEES BELIEVE THAT MONTI PURCHASED 'IL TELEGRAFO' FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESTROYING IT IN ORDER TO WIDEN DISTRIBUTION OF 'LA NAZIONE' INTO IL TELEGRAFO'S TRADITIONAL DISTRIBUTION STRONGHOLD SINCE 'LA NAZIONE' STAFF IS LESS LEFTIST AND MORE MALLEABLE AND RESPONSIVE TO THE POLITICAL PERSUASIONS OF MONTI.

4. COMMENT. PRESUMABLY THE MOTIVATION OF THE MAYOR WAS TO POSE AS A HERO OF THE WORKING CLASS IN A GAME IN WHICH HE APPARENTLY CANNOT LOSE AND IN WHICH HE CAN PLAY WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S MONEY. THE IMPENDING DISAPPEARANCE OF THE NON-COMMUNIST, ONE HUNDRED YEAR OLD 'IL TELEGRAFO' WITH STRONG AND DEEP UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 FLOREN 00085 021444Z

ROOTS AMONG THE AREA'S POPULATION PROMISES TO HAVE A TRAUMATIC IMPACT. GORDON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BANKRUPTCIES, NEWSPAPERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977FLOREN00085
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770072-0746
Format: TEL
From: FLORENCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703102/aaaadmbq.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 784d88ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 FLORENCE 424
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2943184
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIVORNO MAYOR REQUISITIONS 'IL TELEGRAFO' NEWSPAPER
TAGS: SOPN, IT, PCI, IL TELEGRAFO, (NANNIPIERI, ALI)
To: ROME
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/784d88ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009